

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated February 3, 2005, claims 1-9 were pending in this application. Of those claims, claims 1-4 and 7-9 have been rejected. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 2-5 and 7-9 have been amended, and claim 1 has been cancelled. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Specifically, claim 5 has been placed in independent form, and claims 2-4 and 7-9 have been amended to depend from claim 5.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 9 for an informality. In response, claim 9 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

CLAIMS 1-4, 7, AND 9 ARE REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 FOR OBVIOUSNESS BASED UPON HAYES, U.S. PATENT NO. 4,602,507, IN VIEW OF JONKER ET AL., U.S. PATENT NO. 5,258,753

Claims 2-4, 7, and 9 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 5. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the imposed rejection of claims 2-4, 7, and 9.

CLAIM 8 IS REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 FOR OBVIOUSNESS BASED UPON HAYES, IN VIEW OF JONKER ET AL. AND FURTHER IN VIEW OF JAMES ET AL., U.S. PATENT NO. 5,493,496

Claim 8 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 5. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the imposed rejection of claim 8.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. Accordingly, and in view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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